Message Text

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R 181445Z APR 77 FM AMCONSUL MUNICH TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8343 AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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LIMDIS

EUR/ARMITAGE AND BROWN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, CVIS, PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: RFE AND THE MAREV AND INKOW CASES

REF: SOFIA 765 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. CONGEN BRIEFED RFE DIRECTOR HEMSING ON CONTENTS OF STATE 73277 ON APRIL 4. ON BASIS OF THIS BRIEFING, HEMSING DECIDED IT WOULD BE ADVISEABLE THAT RFE ENGAGE IN NO REPEAT NO FURTHER COMMENTARY ON MAREV CASE FOR NEAR FUTURE AT LEAST. RFE WOULD, HOWEVER, RESERVE RIGHT TO CARRY NEWS ITEM (ITEMS) IN EVENT OF FUTURE NEWS STORY IN WESTERN MEDIA.
- 2. CONGEN NOTES THAT RFE BROADCASTS MENTIONED IN REFTEL DATE FROM FEBRUARY. CONGEN BELIEVES IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT RFE IS CURRENTLY BROADCASTING ITEMS OF THIS NATURE ON MAREV CASE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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3. RFE MANAGEMENT IS WALKING A TIGHT WIRE IN DIVIDED FAMILY CASES, PARTICULARLY INKIOW CASE. GIVEN CURRENT U.S. AND WESTERN EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE MENTIONED IN HELSINKI FINAL ACT, RFE MANAGEMENT IS TAKING PAINS NOT REPAT NOT TO PUT ITSELF IN POSITION OF APPEARING TO "MUZZLE" BULGARIAN BD STAFF IN TREAT-

MENT OF DIVIDED FAMILY CASES.

4. MANAGEMENT BELIEVES INKIOW MIGHT, IF HE THOUGHT CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANTED IT, GO TO AMERICAN OR FRG MEDIA WITH ALLEGATION OF RFE "MUZZLING." INKIOW IS SYNDICATED COLUMNIST FOR GERMAN WEEKLY MAGAZINE AS WELL AS WELL-KNOWN AUTHOR OF CHILDRENS' BOOKS. HE DOES INDEED HAVE GOOD CONNECTIONS WITH ELEMENTS OF WESTERN PRESS. BETTS

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Subject: RFE AND THE MAREV AND INKOW CASES

TAGS: SHUM, CVIS, PFOR, BU, RFE, (MAREVA, RYMYANKA), (MAREVA, YORDANKA) To: STATE SOFIA

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